· Appl. No.: 09/446,913

Reply to Office Action of March 25, 2003

IN THE CLAIMS

1-4. (Cancelled)

5. (Currently Amended) A method for treating or preventing a brain disorder diminishing a cerebral vasospasm associated with a subarachnoid hemorrhage comprising administering to a subject in need thereof an effective amount of an NF-wB decoy a composition comprising:

an oligonucleotide or modified oligonucleotide comprising the base sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1 and

a liposomal delivery system

which inhibits the activation of at least one gene by the NF-κB transcription factor, to a subject in need thereof.

- 6. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 5, wherein said <u>composition is</u> administered intracisternally brain disorder is associated with encephalopathy.
- 7. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 5, wherein said composition is administered in a dose ranging from 10 to 10,000 nmoles said brain disorder is cerebral vasospasm.
- 8. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 5, wherein <u>said liposomal</u> <u>delivery system is a cationic liposomal delivery system</u> <u>said brain disorder is cerebral</u> <u>vasospasm associated with subarachnoid hemorrhage</u>.
- 9. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 5, wherein said <u>liposome</u> delivery system comprises a membrane fusion promoter NF kB decoy is a nucleic acid or an analog thereof that antagonizes the binding of nucleic acids to NF kB.
- 10. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 5, wherein said NF-κB decoy oligonucleotide or modified oligonucleotide comprising the base sequence of SEQ ID

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NO: 1 is a single-stranded oligonucleotide or modified oligonucleotide nucleic acid or nucleic acid analog.

- 11. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 5, wherein said NF κB decoy oligonucleotide or modified oligonucleotide comprising the base sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1 is a double-stranded oligonucleotide or modified oligonucleotide nucleic acid or nucleic acid analog.
- 12. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 5, wherein said NF kB decoy oligonucleotide or modified oligonucleotide comprising the base sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1 is a cyclic nucleic acid or nucleic acid oligonucleotide or modified oligonucleotide analog.
- 13. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 5, wherein said NF-κB decoy composition comprises an oligonucleotide comprising the base sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1 which is DNA.
- 14. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 5, wherein said NF κB decoy is composition comprises a modified oligonucleotide comprising the base sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1 or a pseudonucleotide.
- 15. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 5, wherein said NF-κB decoy is composition comprises an S-oligonucleotide, an oligonucleotide in which one or more methyl phosphate group(s) carrying no charge has (have) been substituted for the phosphodiester bond, an acylated oligonucleotide, or an alkylated oligonucleotide, comprising the base sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1.
- 16. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 5, wherein said NF κB decoy composition comprises multiple units of an oligonucleotide or modified oligonucleotide analog comprising the base sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1.

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- 17. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 5, wherein said NF kB decoy composition comprises individual units of an oligonucleotide or modified oligonucleotide comprising the base sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1.
- 18. (Currently Amended) A liposome comprising an NF kB decoy an oligonucleotide or modified oligonucleotide comprising the base sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1, which inhibits the activation of at least one gene by the NF kB transcription factor.
- 19. (Previously Presented) The liposome of Claim 18 that comprises a cationic lipid.
- 20. (Previously Presented) The liposome of Claim 18 that comprises a membrane-fusion promoter.
- 21. (Previously Presented) The liposome of Claim 18 that comprises a large unilamellar vesicle (LUV) structure.
- 22. (Previously Presented) The liposome of Claim 18 that comprises a multilamellar vesicle (MLV) structure.
- 23. (Previously Presented) The liposome of Claim 18 that comprises a small unilamellar vesicle (SUV) structure.
- 24. (Currently Amended) A method for treating or preventing a brain disorder diminishing a cerebral vasospasm associated with a subarachnoid hemorrhage comprising administering and effective amount of the liposome of Claim 18 to a subject in need thereof.